**Task**

You will now expand on the basic research you have completed on your assigned explorer to write a thesis statement and an outline for an essay that answers the following question:

*What are the three most historically important things we should know about this explorer?*

**Thesis Statement and Introduction**

The most important part of an essay is the thesis statement. As we discussed before, a thesis statement directly answers the essay question and is found somewhere in the introduction of the essay. The thesis is the compass that guides the reader (and writer) through the essay; all points in the essay always return to (and support) the thesis statement.

The introductory paragraph contains the thesis as well as the major arguments set out in the thesis, identifying and explaining the main points of the essay without going into detail; it presents your thesis to the reader, providing a general idea about the evidence that will be used to support each of your arguments.

*Remember, a thesis statement:*

is a sentence somewhere in your introduction (first paragraph) that directly answers the question asked.

tells the reader your analysis and interpretation of the subject matter under discussion.

is a road map for the essay, telling the reader what to expect to learn from the rest of the essay.

**Outline**

The outline itself is a larger road map for the entire essay. It breaks the thesis statement down into its major arguments and includes the basic supporting evidence for each of these arguments. Thorough essays have at least two pieces of specific evidence to fully and completely support each argument. This evidence needs to be specific, such as an event, piece of legislation, action, movement, etc.

**Type the following information into a Google Doc (ON YOUR SCHOOL GOOGLE DOC ACCOUNT) and share it with me:**

Your basic thesis statement:

Argument #1:

Evidence #1:

Evidence #2:

Argument #2:

Evidence #1:

Evidence #2:

Argument #3:

Evidence #1:

Evidence #2:

Introductory paragraph including a thoroughly developed thesis (underline the thesis):